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Date: 2/26/79Proposed Draft Terms of Reference
Watch Committee of the IAC
By: 029804 (Revised)

Recognizing the implications of a surprise attack on the United States or areas of vital interest to its security and conceding the capability of the enemy to select the time, place and method of attack, it is agreed that the mission of the Watch Committee constitutes the most important responsibility of the intelligence community. This function will therefore be recognized as one which transcends all other intelligence efforts. The resources and capabilities of each of the IAC agencies will be devoted without reservation to achieve success in providing maximum warning.

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A. Name Watch Committee of the IAC

B. Mission*

To provide earliest possible warning to the United States Government of military or paramilitary action by the USSR, or its allies, which endangers the security of the United States.

C. Functions

1. to develop and operate on a current and continuing basis an Intelligence Plan for the levying upon IAC members of the intelligence requirements necessary to provide the desired degree of advance warning and for recommending the collection priorities of these requirements.

2. to analyze and evaluate information and intelligence, both current and cumulative, on an all-source basis, furnished by the IAC agencies relating to the imminence of hostilities, and to develop therefrom the conclusions as to:

a. Soviet/Communist intentions to initiate hostilities against

1. the Continental United States, vital U.S. possessions, or U.S. forces abroad,

2. U.S. allies or their forces,

3. areas peripheral to the Soviet Orbit.

* The Mission of the Watch Committee shall not be construed as limiting, precluding, or obviating the intelligence activities of the IAC or any organization thereof.

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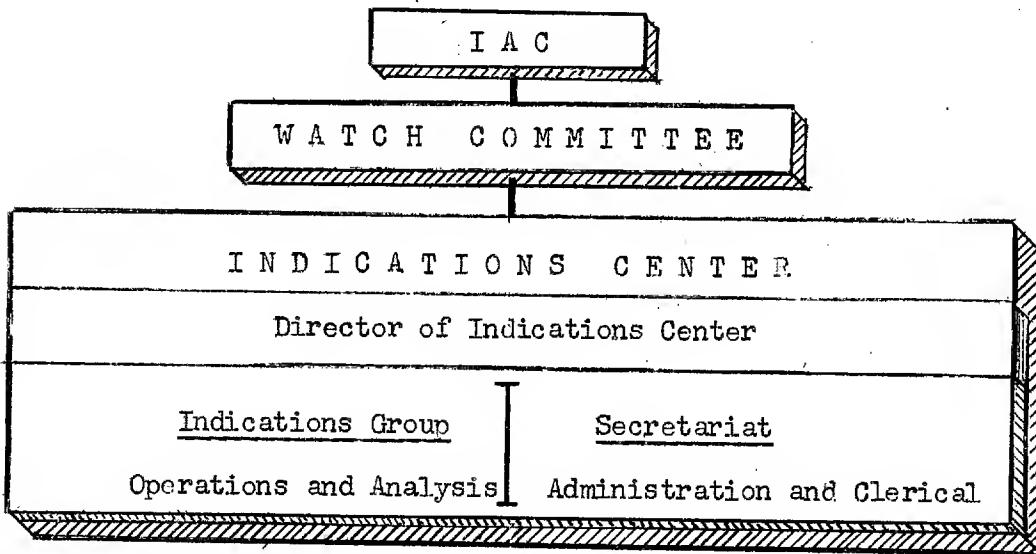
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b any other development, actual or potential, susceptible of exploitation by Soviet/Communist military or paramilitary[#] action which would jeopardize the security of the United States.

3. to report promptly their conclusions, together with significant indications, to the IAC and other appropriate recipients.

D. Composition and Organization

1. The Watch Committee will be composed of a Senior Officer representing each IAC organization, one of whom will be designated by the IAC as Chairman for a specified period. The Committee will be supported by an Indications Center, headed by a Director to be provided by CIA and consisting of an administrative Secretariat and an Indications Group.



2. The Watch Committee will meet on a regular schedule as determined by the Committee and on special occasions when requested by one or more of its members.

*Definition

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E. Duties

The Watch Committee shall discharge or direct The Indications Center in the discharge of the below listed duties and responsibilities.

- a develop and operate on a current and continuing basis the Watch Committee Intelligence Plan for systematizing, energizing, and coordinating through appropriate channels the world-wide collection by US agencies of indications intelligence pertinent to the Watch Committee mission.
- b arrange through the IAC or any member thereof for exploitation of every domestic and foreign source of indications intelligence.
- c arrange with the IAC agencies for a systematic screening of all intelligence information received by them by any means for the purpose of immediately extracting and forwarding to the Indications Center all information which may contain indications of Soviet/Communist intentions as set forth in C,2 above; an agency evaluation, where appropriate, will be forwarded as soon as possible.
- d members will maintain close and intimate liaison with their respective parent agencies to assist them in ensuring that all pertinent indications intelligence information is being made available to the Indications Center.
- e continuously screen all pertinent intelligence information received from all IAC agencies for indications relating to the Watch Committee mission.
- f develop promptly an early evaluation and analysis of each indication in coordination with the intelligence agency or agencies best qualified to deal with the field of intelligence to which the indication belongs.
- g coordinate with the individual members of the Watch Committee the selection of indications for consideration by the Committee in regular and special meetings.
- h prepare material for use by the Watch Committee to assist in its deliberations and the formulation of its conclusions.
- i coordinate the reproduction and dissemination of approved Watch Committee reports.

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- j maintain in readily usable form a complete and integrated file of all pertinent available indications intelligence.
- k maintain wall maps, charts and other display material which will most effectively assist in illustrating and interpreting graphically the current and cumulative indications.
- l concurrently, but not as a substitute for current methods of analysis and evaluation, develop and test the application of mechanical aids and techniques to the problem on an experimental basis with a view to their eventual use in assisting effectively the Watch Committee in the accomplishment of its mission.
- m perform such additional tasks as shall be required in the discharge of the Watch Committee mission.

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